

HANFORD REACH - WAHLUKE SLOPE

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May 19, 1999

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DOE-RL / DIS

Hanford Remedial Action EIS
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
Richland, WA 99352

I am writing in support of the Department of Energy's preferred alternative in the draft environmental impact statement and land use plan. I believe DoE should include within the national wildlife refuge all of the public lands on the Wahluke Slope, the Hanford Reach particularly its islands, the McGee Ranch, and the Arid Lands Ecology Reserve.

The DoE should proceed immediately with a separate Record of Decision in order to establish the national wildlife refuge and protect these special places and natural values in the Hanford Nuclear Reservation.

Obviously these preceding descriptions and names have been supplied to me by the Sierra Club, which I have been a member of for six years. The address, also, was supplied by the club. The suggestion to send a copy to Senator Patty Murray was not necessary as I would have done this action on my own.

Saving the Hanford Reach and "sensitive" lands from agribusiness and any others with an eye for exploiting the area for financial gain, is very important to me as a resident of this state the sixty-four years of my life. It is such a small area to keep in its natural state in comparison with the developed and developing areas in the region known as the Columbia Basin. The Columbia River itself has been changed with the construction of the dams within my lifetime. If there are 50 miles of the river that have survived all this "civilization", let us protect this segment to the best of our ability.

Thank you for the opportunity to state my opinion.

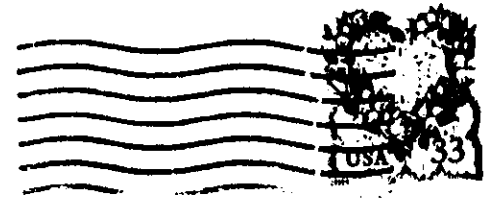
Sincerely,



Betty Durant
Quincy, Washington

069350

Betty K. Durant
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